

INSIDER'S EDGE: Issue 165: New Medicare Cards

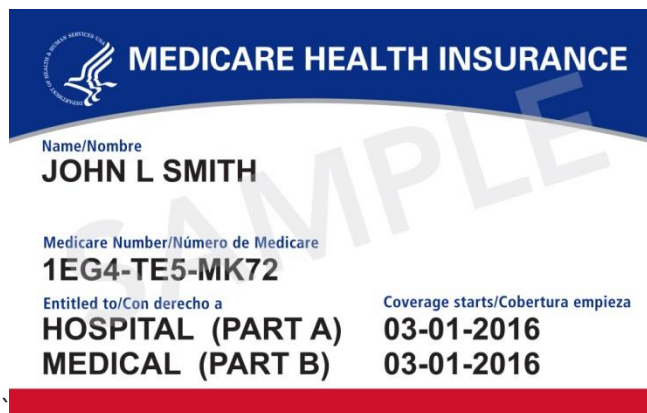
Insiders, gather around. It's been a while, but you know you can always count on Marge to tell you the most important news in the most fun way. This week, we're going to review the New Medicare Card and resources to help beneficiaries, especially the [dually eligible](#). The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is working to promote awareness to many audiences, including advocates and case workers like you!



Did you miss my emails? Yep, I know!

What's happening?

In April 2018, CMS will begin a year-long process of sending Medicare beneficiaries a New Medicare Card that will have a unique Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI), thereby removing the social security number from the Medicare card.



An example of the New Medicare Card. Note the new Medicare Number!

What do beneficiaries need to do?

Nothing! Medicare will automatically mail the new card at no cost to the address on file with the Social Security Administration. If a beneficiary needs to update their official mailing address, they should contact the Social Security Administration at <https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/>. Maryland residents should receive their new card between April and June 2018. Some family members or neighbors may get cards at different times, but that's normal.

How you can help:

CMS is asking organizations to do what they can to help inform and protect people with Medicare. Here are some suggestions and resources:

1. Learn more: [Medicare.gov homepage](#) updated with beneficiary-facing materials – [blog](#) and [informational video](#).
2. Provide “10 Things You Need To Know” fact sheets in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) in strategic locations.
3. Writing a newsletter or public service announcement? Use this [script](#) for the essentials!

Questions? Let’s talk! Email me at mdh.medicaidmarge@maryland.gov.